

Attorney Docket No. 0670

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) Group Art Unit: 2673
Eietsu SASAKI et al.) Examiner:
Serial No. 09/889,693 Filed: July 20, 2001 For: GROPING OPERATION APPARATUS) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Posta Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or 4-21-2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

adule M Sta

Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 2 7 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant submits herewith a Form PTO-1449 listing references known to Applicant and requests that these references be made of record in the above identified application. Copies of the references listed are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), it is certified that either (1) each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement, or (2) no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application and no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

U.S. Patent No. 5,995,083 is in the family of 10-149254.

U.S. Patent 4,954,967 is in the family of JP 03-049119.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Robinson

Reg. No. 38,285

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office, P.C.

PMB 955

21010 Southbank Street

Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165

(571) 434-6789